

WOULD GIVE SOLDIERS FIRST RIGHT TO LAND

Public Lands Committee Reports Such Bill To House.

ONE OF MANY SUCH MEASURES

Is Supplementary To Lane Bill Passed At Last Session.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 4.—Preferred right of entry under the homestead law on the opening or restoration of public land to entry would be extended to discharged soldiers, sailors and marines under resolution of the Public Lands Committee.

The resolution was introduced by Representative Scott Ferris, of Oklahoma, ranking Democratic member of the Public Lands Committee, with the strong endorsement of Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane.

The resolution provides that "hereafter, for the period of two years following the passage of this act, on the opening of public or Indian lands to entry, or the restoration of public lands theretofore withdrawn from entry, such opening or restoration shall, in the order thereof, provide for a period of not less than sixty days before the general opening of such lands to disposal in which officers, soldiers, sailors or marines who have served not less than ninety days in the war with Germany shall have a preferred right of entry under the homestead law, if duly qualified thereunder, except as against prior existing valid settlement rights."

The resolution is one of several pieces of legislation for the benefit of soldiers being urged upon the House by a majority in Congress by officials of the Administration and by Democratic members of Congress.

The original draft of the resolution was prepared in the Department of the Interior, and referred to the Public Lands Committee for its consideration. In a letter to Representative Ferris, in which he said:

"It is believed that some tangible and beneficial legislation for discharged soldiers, returning from the recent war with Germany, should be provided in our subsequent disposal of public lands so far as compatible with the substantial development of our present unused public domain."

"The present resolution, in my judgment, is well calculated to accomplish the purpose above expressed simply according to a preferred right of entry for a period of sixty days for the next two years to the discharged soldier or sailor when any of our public lands are opened or restored to entry by general order."

The area of public lands will doubtless fall short of satisfying the demand for homes that will ultimately be made by the returning soldier, for he should be given, so far as we own, the first opportunity to make a selection therefrom.

From time to time during the past year or two, in the past, there has been some suggestion to entry of lands formerly in forests, or withdrawn for recreation or newly acquired lands with respect to which the soldier could be given special considerations under the homestead law, to which may be added the opening of Indian lands as well as lands that may be classified as agricultural, embraced within the old domain and California land grant and the Bay of California land grant, now vested in the United States.

"As a working proposition, this joint resolution presents no administrative difficulties, and if enacted will become immediately effective, a feature which should not be overlooked in its consideration. Any favorable action upon this proposition cannot operate to seriously retard the development of our public lands, a matter not to be disregarded, for were it otherwise I might hesitate to recommend its approval."

"The proposed measure, therefore, meets my approval as presenting a substantial provision in the interest of the returning soldier."

The resolution in no way conflicts with the provisions of the Lane soldier homestead bill, passed by the House in the last Congress but killed because of the Republican filibuster in the Senate, and which has been reintroduced in the House and is now called the Mendell bill. It rather supplements that measure, and gives priority right for sixty days during the next two years to soldiers who wish to take up public land, but who may not care to enter into a colonization scheme such as is provided for in the Mendell bill.

Ohio car men on strike give out demands

Columbus, O., Sept. 3.—Columbus street car motemen and conductors who went on strike early today completely shutting down street car service, announced that they had made the following demands upon the Columbus Railway, Power & Light Company:

Back pay granted them by the War Labor Board more than a year ago; reinstatement of John Ryan, motor driver, whose case the War Labor Board refused to consider; closed shop; eight hour day; fifty cents a week for first three months and sixty and sixty-five cents for the next two months. The men now receive from forty-one to forty-five cents an hour.

Union car men said the real cause of the strike was an alleged breaking of a contract on the part of the company by refusing to arbitrate differences. An agreement signed a year ago called for arbitration, they said.

REDDING

Redding, Sept. 4.—The road committee did not make the season's second inspection of the highways until today, but members attending the meeting of the selectmen on Tuesday gave informal reports which expressed their views of the situation. These views were to the effect that while all the contractors had performed considerable of the work they were directed to do there yet remained defects that must be remedied before their total performance should be approved. If this becomes the formal decision of the committee the contractors will be further held back until they make good. Work on the permanent improvements recently voted by the committee will be started next week, the first job undertaken being that near the Episcopal church. This job was left last season in an unfinished condition.

The conveyance by Mrs. Charles Bradley of her house at the Ridge to the Countess Turezynowicz has been delayed by the discovery of a gap in the title succession dating back more than thirty years. Joseph Turezynowicz, former owner of the property and upon his death it went to the widow and her children, but the town records fail to show any transfer either by owner's or administrator's deed. Conveyance subsequently made by the widow was defective as well on the record. The record defect alluded to will be remedied through the execution by the surviving four children of the late Mrs. Tucker of a quit claim deed in favor of the Countess. This is expected to be done during the present week and the new purchaser will then take possession.

An aftermath of the job of state road building done by Contractor H. Sanford Osborn in Wilton two years ago is being brought to a close by the building of a gravel deposit made up of by the contractor. Mr. Osborn denies that the plaintiff has any real ground for the action. He says that he offered the gravel and also an old stone wall as material for the road in consideration of his fixing her driveway and removing some rocks from her property. These services he performed as agreed upon, but Mrs. Osborn was aggrieved because he failed to also remove the stone wall, a removal of which, as he claims, was not a part of the bargain.

On page 37 of the telephone directory annex the space devoted to Redding contains under the head of "Amusements," the words "Held in the town of Redding, a private school which is as much a fiction as Baldwin Beach, thus adding to the wonderment regarding the said editor's ability and his honesty."

The town's first list of jurors for the coming year is as follows: William Gorham, E. L. Grumman, E. J. Gorham, John Holman, Harry A. Lounsbury, R. W. Mead, H. Sanford Osborn, R. M. Sanford, J. C. Sanford, A. S. Bentham, George Boutwell, J. Barnett, Frank Crouch, John Davis, E. A. Pinkney, John C. Reed, Seth Rider, Walter P. Rowland, Frank Rider, Lemuel R. Sanford, J. C. Sanford, Jr., R. M. Sanford, C. W. Sanford, George O. Sanford, James Tucker, George P. Williams.

"The Arcadians," Albert Bigelow Paine's latest book, is a narrative, entertainingly and rather humorously told, of his travels in Redding several years ago and his experiences in fixing up for his habitation the old house on the west side which he purchased and has since sold, his successor, as his domicile being a bungalow that he built. Several well known residents appear in the work under fictitious names, one of these being Harry A. Lounsbury. Incidentally the author has much to say in praise of Redding and its surroundings.

The registration voters, E. M. Bradley and Milo L. Osborn, will be in session at the town house from 1 to 5 p. m. on Thursday, Sept. 18, for the purpose of receiving applications from those seeking to be registered voters in time for the October elections.

Leslie Marshall and bride were guests last week at the Ridge. The former wife of Mr. Marshall, who was Fanny Shaw, died in the early part of the summer. About two weeks ago he married a Miss Brook of Birmingham, Ala., a widow.

The town finances will show for the fiscal year soon to close a balance on the right side of at least \$1,000, thereby permitting the payment of one of the bonds of the town, an amount which matured Nov. 1. The principal owners of these bonds have agreed to accept an equal amount of a new issue bearing interest of 4-1/2 per cent, an increase of one per cent over the former rate.

At the Episcopal church last Sunday Rev. Charles Brady, the retiring pastor, made a brief farewell address to the congregation. He leaves this week for his former home at Fort Leflore, Col. On account of impaired health due to an attack of influenza he will take a rest of about a year before resuming ministerial work.

At the West Redding ball ground last week the local team suffered their third successive defeat at the hands of the East Riders, the score being 13 to 7. The losers battled well, but not well enough to make up for their fielding errors.

Annabelle, wife of Isaac Trendwell, died at St. Augustine, Fla., last week from heart trouble after a long illness. Both she and her husband are natives of Redding, the deceased having been a daughter of Sanford Beers.

Mrs. J. B. Sanford and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lemuel Sanford, gave a bridge party at the Ridge last night at the latter's home in Sanfordtown.

A hearing has been appointed for Monday of next week on the admission to probate of the will of the late Daniel G. Wood.

Henry James Forman, the novelist and magazine editor who is now in Redding, is joint author, with Margaret Mayo, of a melodramatic play entitled "Prisoners of the World," which was produced at the

KAHN WANTS SALVAGE BUREAU ESTABLISHED BY GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE HIGH LIVING COSTS

Financier Believes Nation Would Save Large Amount Annually; Favors Commission to Study Taxation; Declares Income Tax Causes Higher Rates of Interest and Lessens Money in Circulation by Diverting It To Exempt Investment Bonds; Discusses Houses and Rents.

In a memorandum to "a public man in Washington," given out yesterday by its author, Otto H. Kahn of the firm of Kahn, Loeb & Co., suggests the appointment by the Government of a non-political body of experts to study the effects of the various kinds of taxation which have been in force during and since the termination of the war, and to make recommendations to Congress based upon such study. Mr. Kahn, who submitted the memorandum in response to a request from the unnamed official for his views on the high cost of living, makes plain that he believes it to be demonstrable that "the unscientific system of taxation adopted in this country since 1917" has played a considerable part in housing prices.

Denying that it is his wish to object to the obvious purpose underlying our war taxation, to impose the greatest burden upon those best able to bear it, and agreeing that taxation must be laid in accordance with the dictates of social justice, the banker concludes "that the very extreme of the burden laid upon business and income has partially defeated the purpose which the framers of our taxation legislation apparently had in view, and at the same time has given rise to certain unforeseen and troublous developments."

It is an inevitable result of the emergency of the war is over, I believe that the entire matter should be subjected to a serious and competent critical review."

After conceding that the farmer, the wage worker and the salaried man and woman are entitled because of the diminished purchasing power of the dollar to a proportionate increase in income, the memorandum insists that the owner of industrially invested capital has suffered similarly, while in addition thereto he is subject to a heavy excess profits tax, and, if his income is large, to an income tax of unparalleled severity.

Leaving out of account, however, the relatively small number of those in possession of large incomes and dealing owners of industrially invested capital as, primarily, the storekeeper, the average merchant, and the million who derive their incomes, all or in part, from investments in corporate securities, Mr. Kahn urges that such "by the same token" the farmer, the wage worker, and the salaried man, feel the need of a larger return than formerly."

To emphasize his argument that speculative earnings of certain individuals and corporations afford no just criterion as to the earnings of business as a whole and to show that there are numerous cases where earnings have shrunk since the war, he cites the example of the steel industry in England, where, he says, conditions appear to be similar.

This investigator concluded that the increase in cost of certain articles during the past two years as compared with the two years before the war had been divided as follows: to the State through taxation, and 3 per cent to capital.

Thus it is set forth that the return on industrially invested capital no longer is the most valuable by-product of thrift, but says the present tax, by reason of the kind and manner of its graduation is a breeder of extravagance and thus of higher prices, there being a general sentiment among investors that the Government takes it away in chunks."

Moreover, the investor, to recoup his income tax, demands higher return from securities, thus enhancing the cost of capital and once more raising prices, or else buys tax-exempt municipal, State or Government bonds,

with the Canada funds and later was transferred to the United States army in France. He is a graduate of Amherst, and served on the staff of the instructor in English and athletics to Lieut. Harold C. Rushmore, New York University, who was another member of the staff is Franklin C. Hill who will have charge of manual training, nature study and woodcraft. He received a thorough technical education, is an experienced instructor in his specialties and has been associated with Dan Beard in the latter's Boy Scout activities. Dora Read Goodale, the writer and former teacher of English in the school, returns as instructor in drawing and painting. Marion A. Bradley, graduate of the Danbury High school and former teacher in the Eastern Academy will be an assistant in the lower grades. He has been a member of the staff as piano teacher and the accomplished wife of the headmaster will assist in the departments of mathematics and history. The subjects to be taught by Mr. Sanford are Latin, Greek, civics and current events.

On Wednesday last week there was a children's party at the Dannel home on the Ridge given for the three year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanford. In connection with a suggestion in the invitation, most of the guests appeared in Indian or gypsy costumes.

A party consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Perry, Clinton Sanford and Vincent Sullivan, spent Sunday and Monday evenings at the Ridge, embracing New York, Massachusetts and Vermont.

Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Brinsmade of St. Louis, are guests of Mrs. John C. Read on their way homeward from a sojourn at Narragansett Pier.

Mrs. H. Sanford Osborn gave a children's party on Tuesday afternoon for her two young daughters.

The tax bills sent out by the collector have brought in returns of about \$2,000 although payments are not due until Oct.

Selectman I. S. Warner and three of his relatives returned this week from a ten day's trip to the White Mountains.

Recent social events include a dance at the Boughman bungalow at the Center on the evening of Aug. 22, and a bridge of six tables given by Mrs. W. J. Teets at her home on the Ridge on the afternoon of Aug. 21.

For the school year about to open D. B. Sanford, headmaster and proprietor of the Sanford school, has secured a teaching staff of superior excellence. The senior master is Frederick D. Mabrey, for the past seven years principal of the Bennington, Vt., high school. When he concludes his engagement there in June last the Bennington banner reviewed his work in a long and highly laudatory article crediting him with materially enlarging the school's curriculum, with having borne an active and influential part in various community measures and church work. His popularity with the student body is also mentioned. Mr. Mabrey is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and of the University of Chicago and in the Sanford school will teach mathematics and sciences. Captain Holbrook Bonney, the new instructor in French and Spanish left a ranch in Argentina in 1914 to enlist

a drastic readjustment in the distribution of the national income. Noting that the excess profits tax for this year while reduced "is still very severe," Mr. Kahn assumes the case of a corporation whose excess profits tax amounted until this year to 40 per cent, on profits over and above "an arbitrarily fixed and, everything considered, low return on money actually invested in business."

It was impossible, he points out, for such a business to make one dollar profit over and above such arbitrary return without charging to the consumer through several intermediate parties, each of whom is subject to much the same conditions. He concludes this discussion of this particular tax with these observations:

"The excess profits tax has tended furthermore to increase actual cost of production, inasmuch as costs naturally are deflated by the excess profits are arrived at, and, therefore, under the operation of the excess profits tax, there is not the same inducement as under normal circumstances to keep costs down as much as possible, but in fact rather the reverse. Nor is there any longer any inducement to employ accumulated profits in the business without capitalizing them, which, of course, makes for lower cost of production. On the contrary, there is every incentive to capitalize every available item—and this makes for higher cost."

"The excess profits tax in peace time must not be confounded with the war profits tax in time of actual warfare. A war profits tax, however heavy, is wholly sound, morally, socially, and economically, and, in fact, it does not, as is largely misapprehended, operate to increase the cost of production and agencies which are operative when a country is at war."

"The objection to a very heavy excess profits tax in peace time rests not so much on equitable grounds as on the ground that it is a tax which does not, and cannot, accomplish the social purpose aimed at, and on the other hand it tends to hurt trade, discourage enterprise, and burden the public. Our excess profits tax certainly has not stopped, but rather has intensified, the commonly recognized 'profiteering'."

"If ever the American people should reach the conclusion, almost inconceivably far-reaching in the ramifications of its effects that profits are to be limited to a definite maximum, they will have to accomplish that purpose by direct statutory enactment. It cannot be accomplished by excess profits taxes."

Expounding the income tax, Mr. Kahn in his memorandum observes that one of the most valuable by-products of thrift is the promotion of thrift, but says the present tax, by reason of the kind and manner of its graduation is a breeder of extravagance and thus of higher prices, there being a general sentiment among investors that the Government takes it away in chunks."

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"Furthermore," he continued, "a very unfortunate impression is created abroad by the fact that a time when we alone are capable of supplying the nations with urgently needed funds, we fail to do so adequately, and when we do accord loans to foreign countries, exact very onerous conditions. This fault is attributed to the American character, when, as a matter of fact, the cause—apart from natural conditions—is primarily due to our taxation measures."

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SERVICE MEN'S RELATIVES MAY BE ORGANIZED

Baltimore, Md., Sept. 4.—Amalgamation of all organizations of women relatives of the men and women who served in the United States army and during the world war will be proposed at the second annual convention of the War Mothers of America which will be held here October 7, 8 and 9.

The call for the convention of the War Mothers, just sent out, invites all organizations of a similar nature to attend the convention and join in the formation of a new body for which a new name may be selected.

Representatives of five other organizations besides the War Mothers, including the Daughters of Liberty, Women of American Patriots, Women's Patriotic League of America, American Mothers of National Defense and Summer Mothers have been asked to participate in the movement for consolidation.

English waiter reaped harvest during big war

London, Sept. 4.—The disappearance of German and Austrian waiters from the hotels and restaurants of the British Empire with the beginning of the war has left the field open to English waiters who are said to have been reaping a harvest.

One Piccadilly waiter says he earns \$5,000 a year, a considerable amount above the average, but investigation shows that it is not unusual for a good waiter to gather, in salary and tips, \$3,000 annually.

NEW TOWN

(Special to The Times.) Newtown, Sept. 4.—Notwithstanding the threatening and cloudy weather the children of town in high spirits assembled at the High and district schools of town. A good attendance is noted throughout. At High school 110 registered, including the sub-normal classes. The attendance is over 30, and an increase in nearly every outlying district.

The Newtown Equal Franchise League met at the home of Mrs. Charles Beardsley on Wednesday afternoon. A large enthusiastic meeting with added interest concerning the plans for conducting future meetings. Former President Mrs. Lydia Glover was unanimously elected honorary president and permanent delegate to the National Convention to be held in New York City. The attendance is over 30, and an increase in nearly every outlying district.

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